independent optimization of the performance characteristics of the barcode scanner for each mode of operation.

On page 5, amend paragraph 0013 as follows:

[0013] A barcode scanner <u>of one or more of the preferred embodiments may offer</u> ~~incorporating the present invention offers~~ the advantage of flexibility for the end user, in that one device can be used in multiple modes of operation without suffering from inferior performance characteristics of previously available fixed/portable barcode scanners. The device described herein exhibits performance characteristics in each mode of operation comparable to those of barcode scanners designed for only one mode of operation or the other. The multiple aperture embodiment may also minimize the manipulation of the scanner required for a user to aim the scanner when the scanner is in portable mode and allowing the user to easily return the scanner to fixed mode.

Insert after "Fixed Mode" of Paragraph 0013 as follows:

On page 5, ~~amend paragraph 0014 as follows~~:

[0014] Additional aspects and advantages ~~of this invention~~ will be apparent from the following detailed description of preferred embodiments, which proceeds with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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On page 7, amend paragraph 0038 as follows:

[0038] When the portable mode of operation is desired, the operator may lift barcode scanner 100 from the base unit 105. The scan pattern 110 produced from scan lines passing through the second window 108 is optimized for portable operation. In portable mode operation, the operator aims the barcode scanner 100 to orient the ~~place~~ <u>plane of</u> the scan pattern across the barcode. The portable mode scan pattern 110 preferably comprises a pattern of one or a few scan lines (e.g. two or